

Message Text

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14-L
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-11 SAM-01 SIL-01 INR-07 NSC-05

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R 121518Z MAR 76
FM AMEMBASSY OSLO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1296
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L OSLO 1270

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, NO, PO
SUBJECT: SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC SUMMIT IN PORTUGAL MARCH 14-15

REFS: (A) OSLO 750 (NOTAL, (B) OSLO 479 (NOTAL),
(C) OPORTO 0103

1. AS REPORTED REF C, NORWEGIAN PRIME MINISTER ODVAR NODLI AND LABOR
PARTY CHAIRMAN REIULF STEEN WILL TRAVEL TO PORTUGAL
THIS WEEKEND TO PARTICIPATE IN AN EUROPEAN SOCIAL
DEMOCRATIC SUMMIT MEETING IN OPORTO.

2. OFFICIAL AT LABOR PARTY HEADQUARTERS
SAID MEETING IS DESIGNED TO GIVE
PORTUGUESE SOCIALISTS A SHOT IN THE ARM BEFORE THE
APRIL 25 ELECTIONS THERE. HE ALSO SAID LABOR PARTY
MAY DECIDE TO BEGIN A SUBSCRIPTION DRIVE IN LABOR
MOVEMENT (PARTY AND TRADE UNIONS) FOR MONEY TO SEND
TO PORTUGUESE SOCIALISTS.

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3. NORWEGIAN TRADE UNION FEDERATION (LO) INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY SANDEGREN PREVIOUSLY TOLD EMBASSY THAT LABOR "STUDY GROUP" WHICH VISITED PORTUGAL RECENTLY (REFTEL) CONCLUDED THAT IMMEDIATE HELP BEFORE ELECTION WAS WHAT SOCIALISTS NEEDED MOST. NORWEGIANS THEREFORE DECIDED TO SCRAP PLANS TO HELP PUBLISHING HOUSE AND CULTURAL CENTER FOR THE MOMENT AND CONCENTRATE ON OBTAINING FINANCIAL HELP FROM NORWEGIAN DISASTER RELIEF FUNDS FOR PORTUGUESE SOCIALIST PARTY ANGOLA REFUGEE CENTER, FINANCING 22 WEEKEND LABOR SEMINARS IN PORTUGAL IMMEDIATELY AND PROVIDING FUNDS DIRECTLY TO PORTUGUESE SOCIALIST PARTY FOR ELECTION EFFORT. LABOR MOVEMENT'S FUNDS ARE LIMITED, SO A FUND RAISING DRIVE MIGHT BE CONSIDERED, SANDEGREN SAID. HE SAID "STUDY GROUP" FOUND PORTUGUESE SOCIALISTS OPTIMISTIC, AND RIGHTLY SO, THAT POLITICAL THREAT FROM LEFT WAS LARGELY OVERCOME AND THAT PROGRESS WAS BEING MADE IN TRADE UNIONS, BUT THAT ECONOMIC AND REFUGEE PROBLEMS ARE CRITICAL AND MAJOR THREAT NOW IS OF POLITICAL SHIFT TO THE RIGHT.

BYRNE

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